

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

WELLINGBOROUGH,

For the Year 1910.

WELLINGBOROUGH :
PERKINS & CO., PRINTERS,
SHEEP STREET.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30243269>

Annual Report.



*To the Chairman and Councillors of the Wellingborough
Urban District Council.*

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report for the year 1910.

POPULATION. There were 44 new houses erected and four demolished, this gives a total of 4,763, and by calculating $4\frac{1}{2}$ persons to each house (as it worked out at the last census in 1901) it gives a population of 21,434. I have taken the various rates on a population of 21,400.

BIRTH RATE. The number of births registered was 405, boys 199, girls 206, giving a birth-rate of 18'8, a decrease on last year, and one of the lowest on record. For the last three years, in this district, the number of girls born has been greater than the number of boys.

DEATH RATE. The registered number of deaths at all ages and from all causes was 238, giving a death rate of 11'1, of these 23 were non-resident, and when they are deducted from the total it gives a death-rate of 10'0, the same as last year. There were 37 deaths in the Workhouse Infirmary, and five in the Cottage Hospital; none in the Isolation Hospital. There were 39 deaths of children under one year, of these nine were due to Premature Birth, two to Accidents of parturition, seven to Pneumonia, three to Measles and Pneumonia, one to Whooping Cough, one Accident (suffocation) and the particulars of the cause of death of the remaining 16 will be seen on Table V. The death-rate of children under one year of age per 1,000 Births registered is 96'2. This is an increase on last year, but as there were 9 deaths from Premature Birth and 3 from Accidents it will be seen that the increase is only slight, and that infantile mortality here compares very favourably with other small manufacturing towns of the same size. There were 95 deaths of people of 65 years and upwards, many of them being over 75 years. There were 19 deaths of persons between one to 5 years of age, nine of 5 to 15 years, fourteen, 15 to 25 years, and sixty-two in persons of 25 to 65 years of age.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. During the year, 90 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified, viz.:—54 Scarlet Fever, eight Diphtheria, eight Enteric, twenty Erysipelas. There is a marked decrease in the number of Scarlet Fever notifications compared with last year. Twenty-nine cases were sent to the Isolation Hospital, which is fully equipped and in good working order. All the patients were removed promptly, on it being ascertained that proper accommodation could not be obtained at home. I would like here to testify to the excellent work done by the Sanitary Inspector in carrying out all the necessary precautions. There was only one death from Scarlet Fever, of the 54 cases notified, four cases were imported; 14 arose from direct contagion, and the rest there was no apparent cause. The greatest number of cases were in September (15).

ENTERIC. Eight cases of Enteric were notified and two were fatal, three of the cases were imported, and for the other five there seemed to be no apparent cause. Three cases were treated at the Workhouse Infirmary in the early part of the year (all one family). The cases nursed at home were isolated and the places properly disinfected.

DIPHTHERIA. There were eight cases of Diphtheria notified and three were fatal. There were no notifications during the first six months of the year. Some of the cases were of a very mild type, thorough investigations were made, but in no case could anything be definitely adduced as to the origin. Anti-toxin can be obtained from me by the medical men of the town when they want it, and also swabs to send to the Clinical Institute, London, for bacteriological examinations, if desired.

MEASLES. There was an epidemic of Measles in the early summer, and in the autumn. It was of a mild type, and the eight deaths that occurred were in every case coupled with pneumonia.

PHTHISIS. There were 19 deaths from Phthisis, one more than last year.

CANCER, Etc. There was a decrease in the number of deaths from Cancer, Pneumonia, Heart Disease, and Bronchitis as compared with last year.

HYGIENIC CONDITION. The town water supply is plentiful and pure, procured from wells three or four miles from the town. A good softening and filtering process is now carried out, which is very beneficial.

A register of Bake-houses has been compiled, and all are required to be lime-washed at least every six months. A record is kept of the date of such cleansing being done, and inspected.

The slaughter-houses, 24 in number, have been inspected and also visited regularly by the Sanitary Inspector during the time of slaughtering, and a thorough inspection made of carcasses and meat. No case of tuberculous meat has been found. The premises have been lime-washed, and kept in a wholesome condition. The Sanitary Inspector holds the special certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, London, for the inspection of food.

The Dairies and Cowsheds have been regularly inspected, and where improvements have been suggested, they have been promptly carried out.

There are four registered Lodging Houses in the district, they have been under constant supervision, and the necessary cleansing properly done.

House refuse is collected weekly and destroyed by incineration. In the summer time it is greatly to be desired that the collections should be twice a week.

The sewage is treated by Broad Irrigation at the sewage farm.

The Notification of Birth Act is in force, and the question of the appointment of a Health Visitor is now under consideration.

The Register of the Factories and Workshops have been revised, and number 120. Sanitary condition of these places have been examined, and any defects remedied without undue delay, special attention being given to the means of escape in case of fire.

There have been 3,787 inspections and re-inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector during the year, resulting in the removal or remedying of 520 nuisances or infringements.

Housing Regulations.—A systematic inspection of all dwelling houses, which the Housing, Town Planning, etc. Act of 1910 demands, has been commenced in accordance with the instructions of the Urban Council, and thirteen dwelling houses have been carefully examined and reports submitted to the Council, and Notices served requiring various defects to be remedied.

On the whole, it will be seen that the health of the town has been good, and if Table I. is carefully read it will be noticed that

during the last ten years there has been a steady improvement in the Vital Statistics of the Urban District in all particulars, pointing to a decided satisfactory hygienic condition.

I have much pleasure in being able to make so favourable a report upon the health and condition of the town during the past year. I wish to thank Mr. Hall, the Sanitary Inspector for his able and very efficient help during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

WM. WAKE CLARK, M.D., &c.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Table I. Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1910 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.					TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES belonging to the District.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.						Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1900	18,074	489	27	58	116.50	256	14.1	33	13		243	12.1	
1901	18,412	529	28.7	59	111.5	236	12.8	36	6		230	12.5	
1902	19,400	438	22.5	56	127.8	221	11.4	32	5		216	11.1	
1903	19,872	511	25.7	50	97.8	232	11.6	42	19		213	10.7	
1904	20,180	482	23.8	61	127.3	250	12.3	54	25		225	11.1	
1905	20,480	461	22.5	54	117.1	225	10.9	32	18		207	10.1	
1906	20,780	437	21	48	109.8	238	11.4	44	12		226	10.8	
1907	20,810	387	18.5	29	74.9	217	10.4	41	12		205	9.8	
1908	21,000	414	19.7	43	103.8	258	12.2	55	30		228	10.8	
1909	21,000	432	20.5	34	78.7	237	11.2	48	29	3	211	10.0	
Averages for years 1900-1909	200,008	4570	22.9	492	106.5	2370	11.8	417	169		2204	10.9	
1910	21,400	405	18.8	39	96.2	238	11.1	42	23		215	10.0	

* Rates in Columns 4 and 8 calculated per 1,000 of the estimated gross population.

Area of District in acres
(exclusive of area covered by water) } - 3905.

Total Population at all ages—18,412.
Number of inhabited houses—4,694.
Average number of persons per house—4.5. } At Census of 1901.

I.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.

II.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.

III.

Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? **YES.**

Table II. Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1910 and previous years.

Names of Localities.	1				2				3				4				5				6				7			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.
1900	18,074	489	256	58																								
1901	18,412	259	236	59																								
1902	19,400	438	221	56																								
1903	19,872	511	232	50																								
1904	20,180	482	250	61																								
1905	20,480	461	225	54																								
1906	20,780	437	238	48																								
1907	20,810	387	217	29																								
1908	21,000	414	258	43																								
1909	21,000	432	237	34																								
Averages of Years 1900 to 1909 ... }	200,008	4570	2370	492																								
1910	21,400	405	238	39																								

Table III. Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1910.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.							No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.								
	At Ages—Years.						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards																
Small pox.....																						
Cholera																						
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) ..	8	3	5																			
Erysipelas	20	1	1		16	2																
Scarlet fever	51	3	14	31	5	1																
Typhus fever																						
Enteric fever	8	1	2		5																	
Relapsing fever																						
Continued fever																						
Puerperal fever																						
Plague																						
Totals.....	90	4	18	39	5	22	2															

Isolation Hospital, Urban District, Wellingborough.
Total available beds, 23. Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, 1.

Table IV.
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1910.

(See notes on next page).

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Total Deaths whether of Residents or non- Residents in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Small-pox.....															
Measles.....	12	3	8	1											
Scarlet fever	1				1										
Whooping-cough	2	1	1												
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	3		1	2											
Croup															
Typhus															
Fever - Enteric	2					2									
Other continued															
Epidemic influenza.....	1				1										
Cholera															
Plague															
Diarrhœa (see notes on next page)															
Enteritis do.															
Gastritis do.															
Puerperal fever do.															
Erysipelas															
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	19			1	8	9	1								
Other tuberculosis diseases	3		1	1	1										
Cancer, malignant dis- ease (see notes on next page)	15														
Bronchitis	14	1	1												
Pneumonia	13	7	4												
Pleurisy															
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs.....															
Alcoholism															
Cirrhosis of Liver) ...															
Venereal diseases															
Premature birth	9	9													
Diseases and accidents of parturition.....	2	2													
Heart diseases.....	19					8	11								
Accidents	5	1			1	3									
Suicides	1					1									
Senile decay.....	19						19								
Anthrax	1				1										
All other causes	74	14	2	4	1	23	30								
All causes	215	38	18	9	14	57	79								

Notes to Tables IV. and V.

- (a) In Table IV., all deaths of "Residents" occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be *included* with the other deaths in the columns for the several age groups (columns 2-8). They are also, in columns 9-15 to be *included* among the deaths in their respective "Localities" according to the previous addresses of the deceased as given by the Registrars. Deaths of "Non-Residents" occurring in public institutions in the district are in like manner to be *excluded* from columns 2-8 and 9-15 of Table IV.
- (b) See notes on Table I. as to the meaning of "Residents" and "Non-Residents," and as to the "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables. The "Localities" in Table IV. should be the same as those in Tables II. and III.
- (c) All deaths occurring in public institutions situated within the district, whether of "Residents" or of "Non-Residents," are, in addition to being dealt with as in note (a), to be entered in the last column of Table IV. The total number in this column should equal the figures for the year in column 9, Table I.
- (d) The total deaths in the several "Localities" in columns 9-15 of Table IV. should equal those for the year in the same localities in Table II., sub-columns c. The total deaths at all ages in column 2 of Table IV. should equal the gross total of columns 9-15, and the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.
- (e) Under the heading of "Diarrhœa" are to be included deaths registered as due to Epidemic diarrhœa, Epidemic enteritis, Infective enteritis, Zymotic enteritis, Summer Diarrhœa, Dysentery and Dysenteric diarrhœa, Choleraic diarrhœa, Cholera (other than Asiatic or epidemic), and Cholera Nostras.
Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.
- Deaths from Enteritis, Mucro-Enteritis, Gastro-Enteritis, and Gastritis (see under the heading Diarrhœal Diseases in Table V.) in Tables IV. and V. should be placed immediately below, but separately from those enumerated under the heading Diarrhœa as defined by enumeration above. This is particularly important for deaths under one year of age, as many of the deaths in infancy returned as due to Enteritis, are really caused by Epidemic Diarrhœa. In the course of years, by the adoption of this recommendation, it will be practicable to ascertain the probable amount of transfer between these different headings.
- (f) Under the headings of "Cancer" and "Puerperal fever" should be included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms. Thus : under "Cancer" should be included deaths from Cancer, Carcinoma, Malignant disease, Sarcoma, Epithelioma, Scirrhus, Villous tumour, and Papilloma of bladder, Rodent ulcer. Under "Puerperal Fever" are to be included deaths from Pyæmia, Septicæmia, Sæptæmia, Pelvic peritonitis, Peri- and Endo-Metritis occurring in the Puerperium.
- (g) Under "Congenital Defects" in Table V. are to be included deaths from Atelectasis, Icterus neonatorum, Navel Hemorrhage, Malformations and Congenital hydrocephalus.
- (h) Under "Tuberculous Meningitis" are to be included deaths from Acute hydrocephalus.
- (i) Under "Other Tuberculous Diseases" are to be included deaths from Tuberculosis, Tuberculosis of bones, joints and other organs, Lupus and Scrofula.
- (j) All deaths certified by registered Medical Practitioners and all Inquest cases are to be classed as "Certified"; all other deaths are to be regarded as "Uncertified."

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III., IV. and V., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

WM. W. CLARK, M.D., &c.,

Medical Officer of Health.

January, 1911.

Table V. Infantile Mortality during the Year 1910.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
CAUSES	Certified																	
	Uncertified.....																	
TIOUS DISEASES.	Small-pox																	
	Chicken-pox																	
	Measles												1		1	1		3
	Scarlet Fever.....																	
	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup))																	
	Whooping Cough.....						1											1
DISEASES.	Diarrhœa, all forms.....																	
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis,)																	
	Gastro-enteritis)																	
	Gastritis, Gastro- intestinal Catarrh)																	
	(See Notes to Table IV.)																	
DISEASES.	Premature Birth	6	3			9												9
	Congenital Defects																	
	(See Notes to Table IV.)																	
	Injury at Birth	2				2												2
	Want of Breast-milk,)				2	2	1	1										4
	Starvation)																	
	Atrophy, Debility,)	1	1	1		3												3
	Marasmus)																	
DISEASES.	Tuberculous Meningitis ...																	
	(See Notes to Table IV.)																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis:)																	
	Tabes Mesenterica)																	
	Other Tuberculous)																	
	Diseases)																	
	(See Notes to Table IV.)																	
OTHER CAUSES.	Erysipelas																	
	Syphilis																	
	Rickets																	
	Meningitis)																	
	(not Tuberculous))																	
	Convulsions		1			1						1	1					3
	Bronchitis									1								1
	Laryngitis																	
	Pneumonia.....				1	1	1							2	2	1		7
	Suffocation, overlying								1									1
	Other causes		1			1			1				1				1	4
		9	6	1	3	19	3	1	2	1		1	3	2	3	2	1	38

Births in the year { legitimate 380.
 { illegitimate 15.

Population estimated to middle of
1910 - 21,400.

Deaths from all Causes at all ages—238.

For Notes on this Table see page 12.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES and HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Factories..... (including Factory Laundries).	66	1	
Workshops..... (including Workshop Laundries).	122	2	
Workplaces..... (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report).			
Total.....	188	3	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions. (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H. M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	9	9		
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances	6	6		
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient.....				
{ unsuitable or defective ...	19	19		
{ not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory & Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	27	27		
Other offences				
(excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report).				
Total	61	61		

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

3.—HOME WORK.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s 131) at the end of the year.		Number.
(1)		(2)
Important classes of work-shops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here.	Workshops, &c.	170
	Bakehouses	31
	Total number of workshops on Register.....	201

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class. (1)	Number. (2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133) ...	17
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)	{ Notified by H.M. Inspector ... Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector
Other	
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year.....	2
In use at the end of the year.....	

WM. W. CLARK, M.D.,

January, 1911.

Medical Officer of Health.